

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 549

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Gregg Jones upon his being awarded the Frank W. Mayborn Leadership Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to recognize and honor those citizens of our State who are successful in their professional lives and have contributed to their communities in an outstanding way; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Gregg Jones, who was recently honored at the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association (SNPA) News Industry Summit for his contributions to the newspaper industry with the Frank W. Mayborn Leadership Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones is the fourth generation of his family to work in the newspaper business; and

WHEREAS, Gregg Jones has followed in the grand tradition of his grandmother, Edith O'Keefe Susong, who took over the *Greeneville Democrat* in 1916 and within the next four years has acquired two more newspapers, consolidating them into what would become the *Greeneville Sun*, which marked the beginning of Jones Media; and

WHEREAS, when he was a boy, Mr. Jones was already part of the newspaper industry, shoveling used lead type into melting pots daily so it could be reused in the Linotype machines to set type for the next day's edition; and

WHEREAS, Gregg Jones wrote for his high school and college newspapers and joined the staff of the *Greeneville Sun* full time in 1972; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones worked in every department at the *Sun*, including the pressroom, mailroom, and composing room, as well as circulation director and marketing director before being named co-publisher in 1985 by his father, John M. Jones, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, he is responsible for the supervision of the operations of his family's interests, which includes fourteen community newspapers throughout East Tennessee and western North Carolina, dozens of websites, several travel and tourism publications, a digital marketing agency, and a telemarketing company; and

WHEREAS, Gregg Jones has served as chairman of the National Newspaper Association, director of the Associated Press, and president of the Tennessee Press Association and of SNPA; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones also serves as a trustee for SNPA Foundation and is president of the Tennessee Press Association Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jones is most deserving of recognition for his plethora of professional achievements and success in the newspaper industry; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Gregg Jones upon receiving the Frank W. Mayborn Leadership Award and wish him success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.